



COLUMBIA RIVER INTER-TRIBAL FISH COMMISSION

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TO: Technical Management Team (TMT)
 FROM: Kyle Dittmer, *Hydrologist - Meteorologist*, CRITFC Hydro Program
 DATE: July 11, 2007
 SUBJECT: Summary of Pool Operations – 2007 Summer Treaty Fishery

CRITFC submitted two System Operation Requests (2007-C1 and C2) via the NMFS' TMT forum to support 2007 summer treaty fishing. CRITFC requested two criteria: (1) one-foot elevation bands and (2) stable pool elevations during each week of treaty fishing. Criterion #1 asked to operate the pools as a hard constraint within a one-foot elevation range for all of the Zone 6 pools (i.e. Bonneville, The Dalles, and John Day). The Corps committed to a hard constraint of a 1.5-foot range, or 1-foot as a soft constraint, as they have done so since 1996, but only for the Bonneville pool.¹ The table summarizes the hourly compliance of CRITFC's 1-foot elevation band criteria and the Corps' 1.5-foot criteria during the 2007 and 2006 treaty fisheries.

2007	Bonneville Pool	The Dalles Pool	John Day pool
1 foot range (CRITFC):			
JUNE 18 - JUNE 20	89%	82%	100%
JUNE 27 - JUNE 29	100%	99%	99%
JULY 3 - JULY 6	80%	71%	100%
average:	90%	84%	100%
2006 average:	93%	62%	99%
1.5 foot range (COE):			
JUNE 18 - JUNE 20	100%	98%	100%
JUNE 27 - JUNE 29	100%	100%	100%
JULY 3 - JULY 6	100%	88%	100%
average:	100%	95%	100%
2006 average:	100%	82%	100%

Pool elevation data is a good objective measure as to the absolute pool fluctuations (Criterion #2) as shown in Figures 1 through 9. The Bonneville pool saw 0.5 – 1.1 foot swings (compared to 0.3 – 0.9 foot swings in summer 2006). The Dalles pool saw 0.5 – 2.0 foot swings (compared to 1.3 – 2.5 foot swings in summer 2006). John Day pool saw 0.4 – 0.8 foot swings (compared to 0.3 – 0.8 foot swings in summer 2006).

As previously mentioned to TMT, the low BON pool during the June 23-24 weekend caused problems with the platform fishers (see the accompanying photos), which was outside the scope of the SORs. At least three fishers complained that their nets filled with eel grass due to the low water and high winds. It would be desirable for the COE managers to have further discussions with CRITFC and the Tribal managers on this issue as soon as possible.

cc: CRITFC Hydro Program (Heinith, Lorz) and Fish Management Division (Ellis, Matylewich)

¹ CRITFC's member tribes are currently engaged in policy discussions with the Corps NWD commanders regarding providing appropriate pool operations for all of Zone 6 during the treaty fisheries.

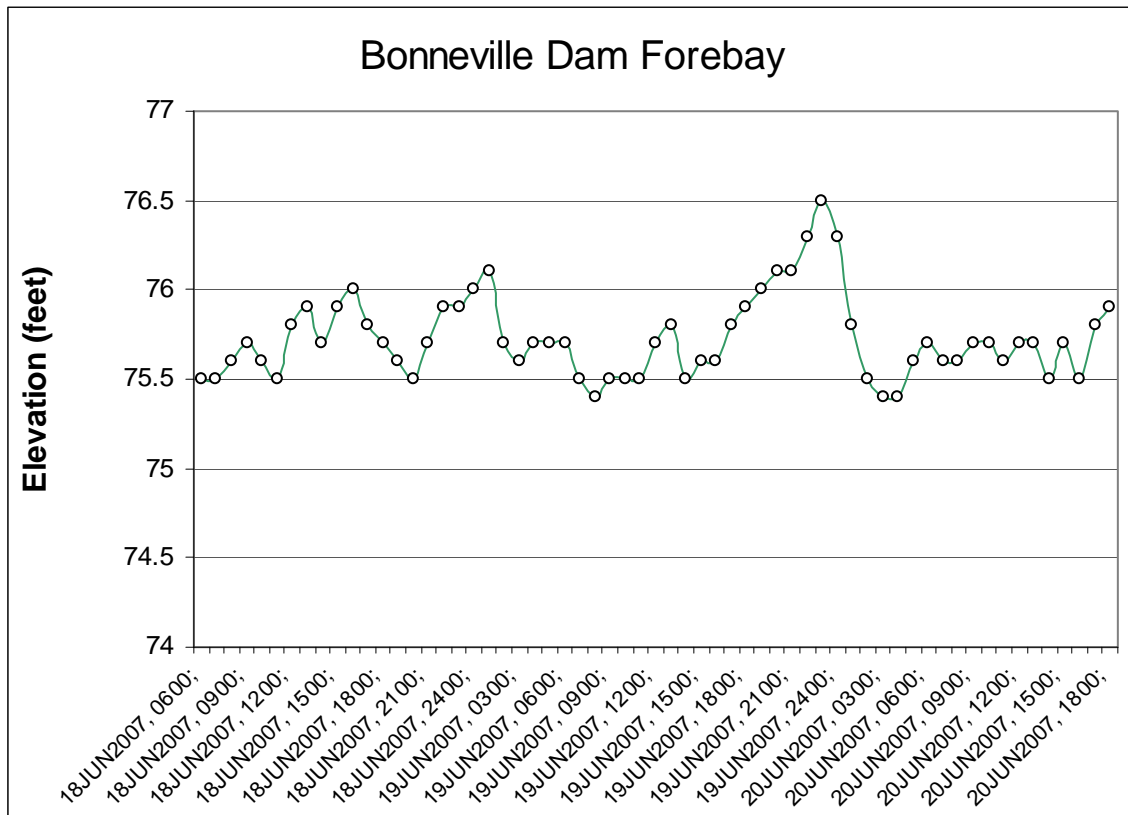


Figure 1. Observed BON pool elevations during June 18-20, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

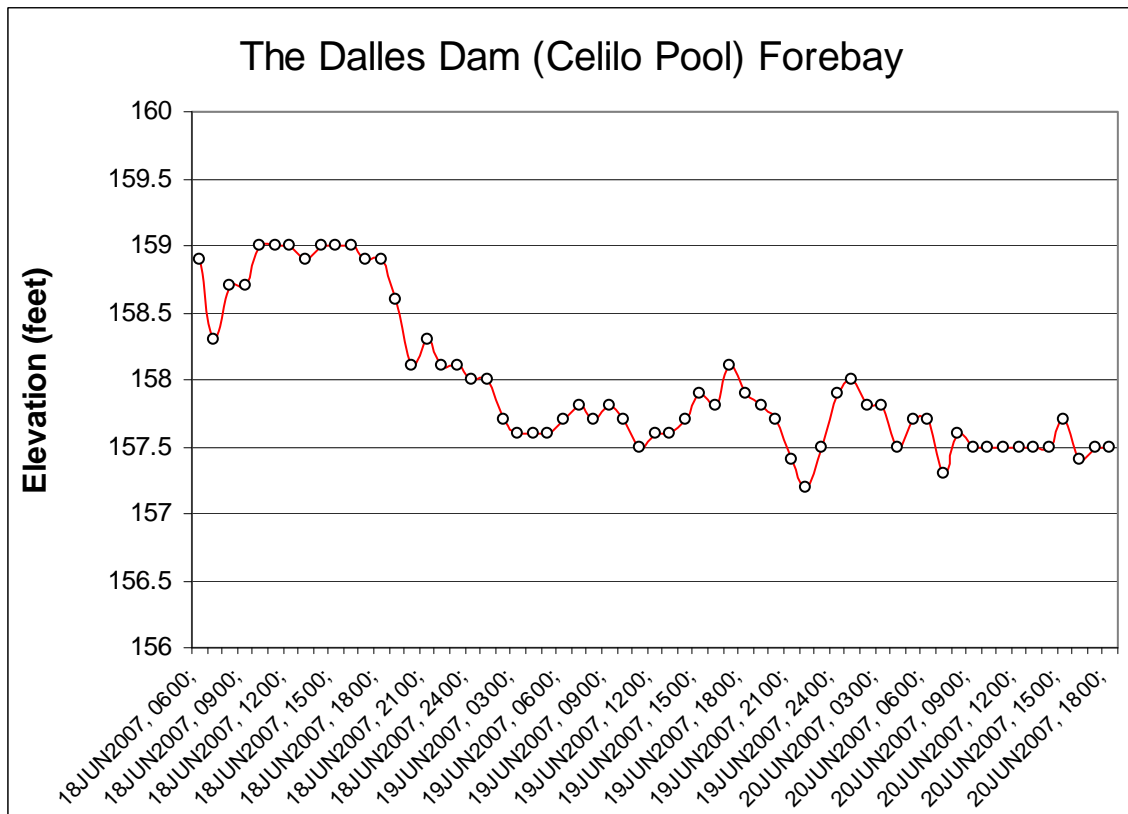


Figure 2. Observed TDA pool elevations during June 18-20, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

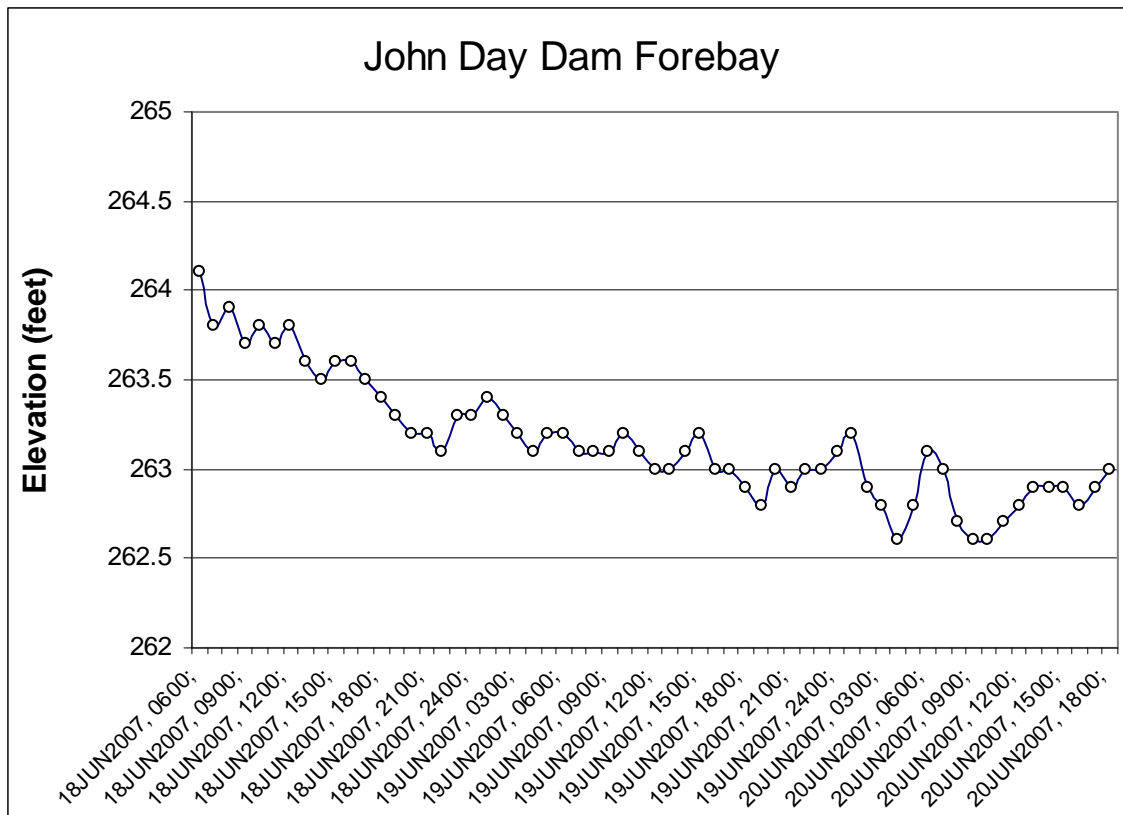


Figure 3. Observed JDA pool elevations during June 18-20, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

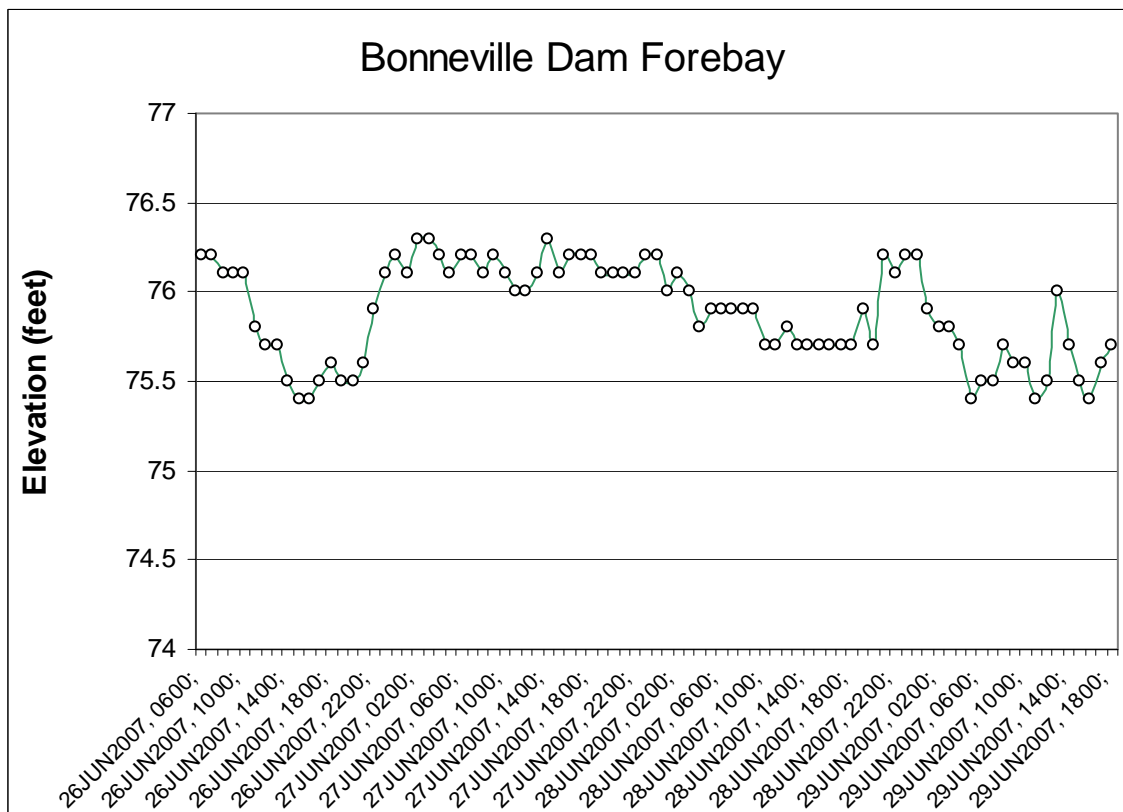


Figure 4. Observed BON pool elevations during June 26-29, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

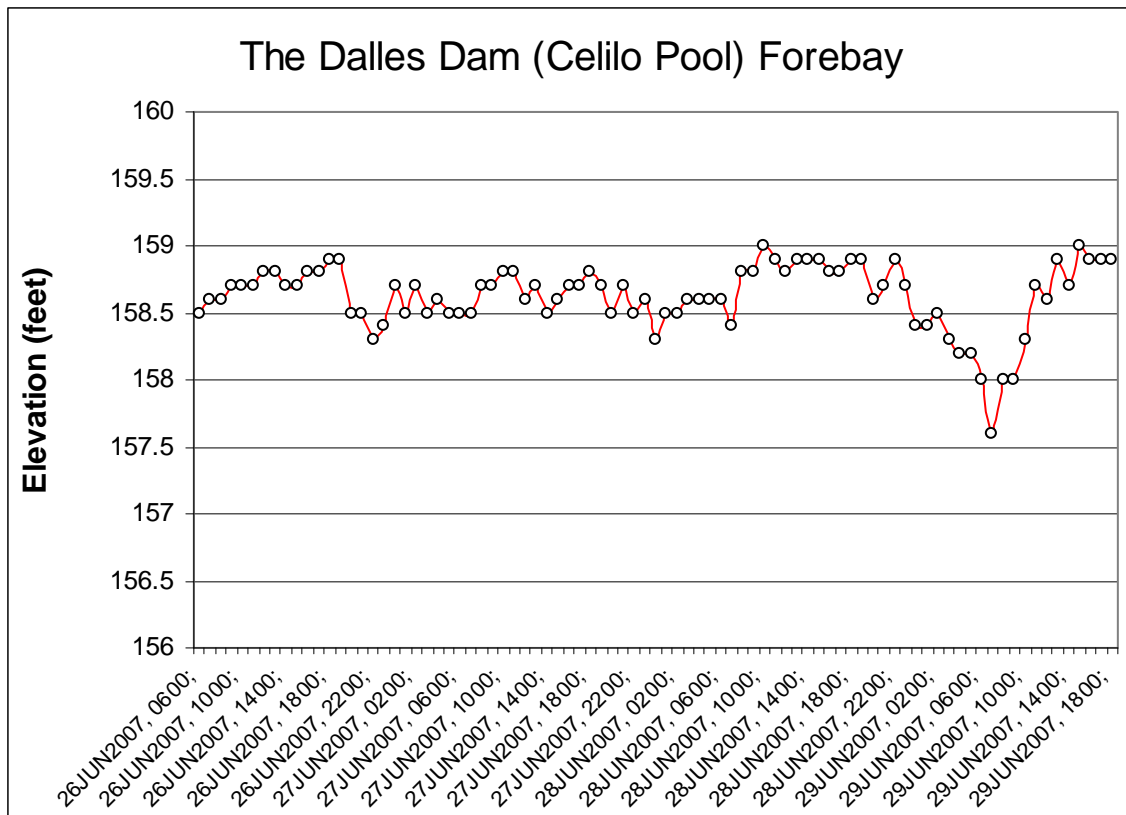


Figure 5. Observed TDA pool elevations during June 26-29, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

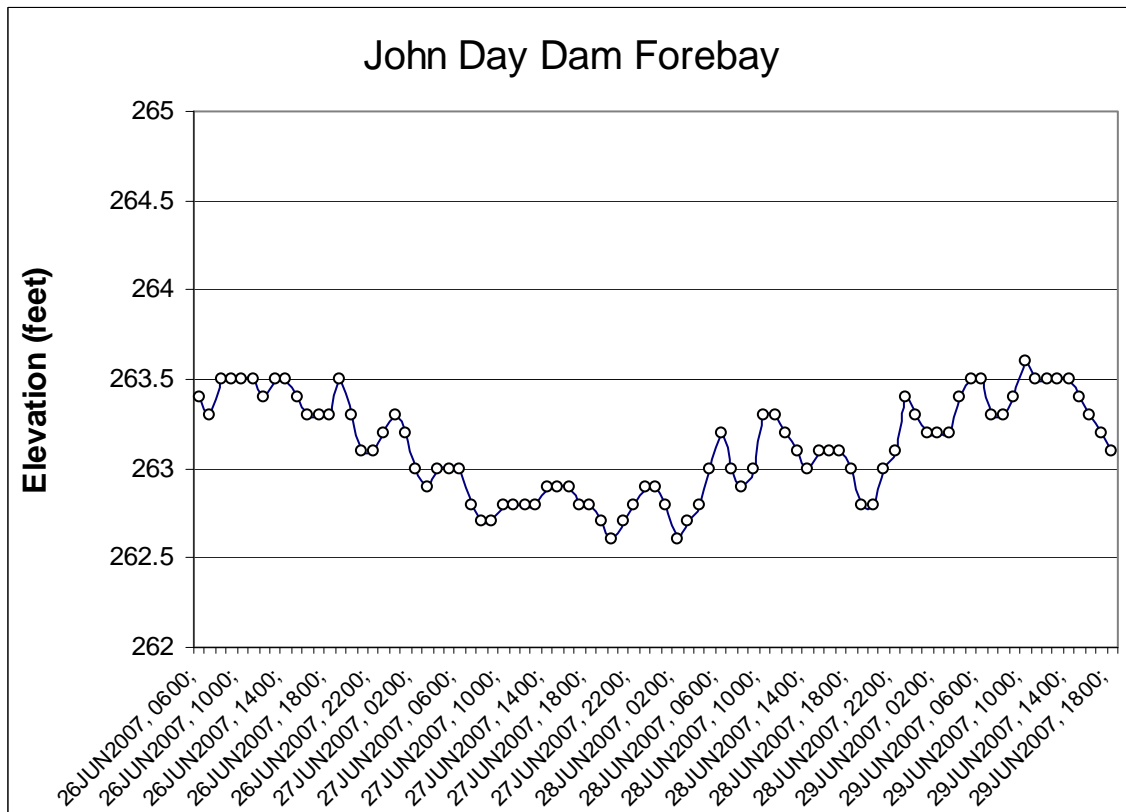


Figure 6. Observed JDA pool elevations during June 26-29, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

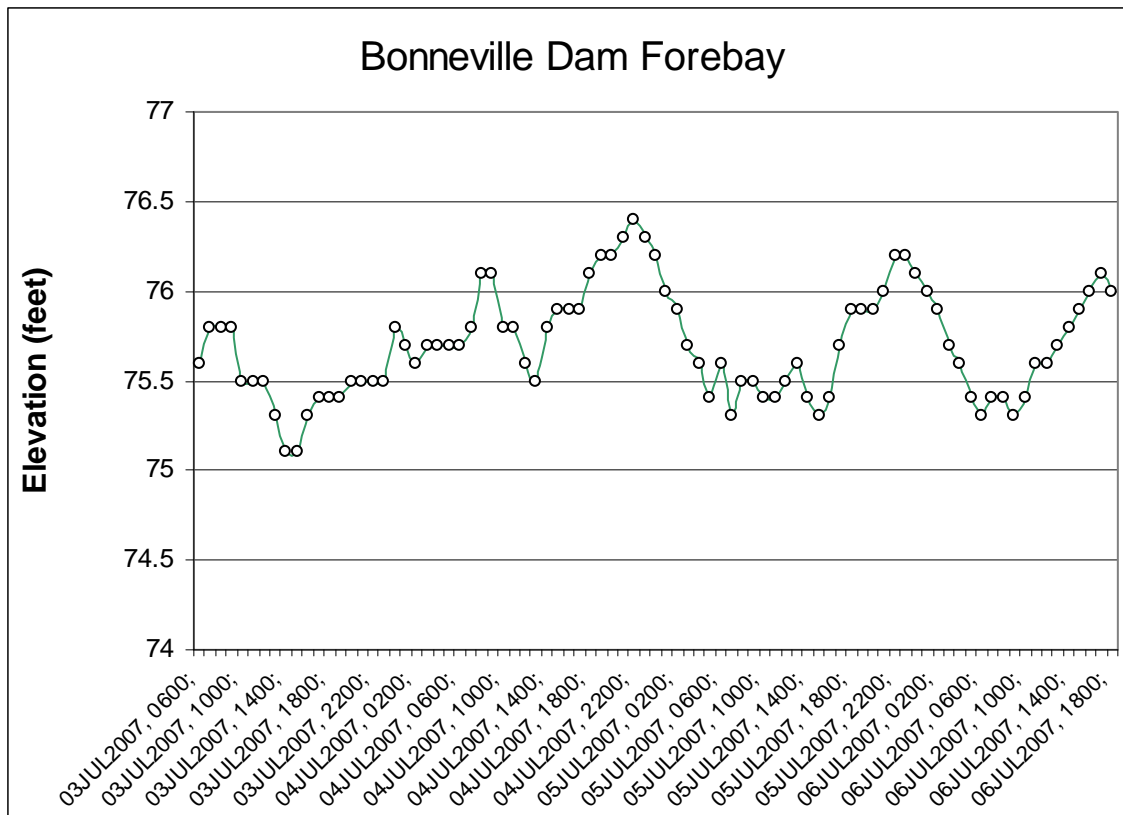


Figure 7. Observed BON pool elevations during July 3-6, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

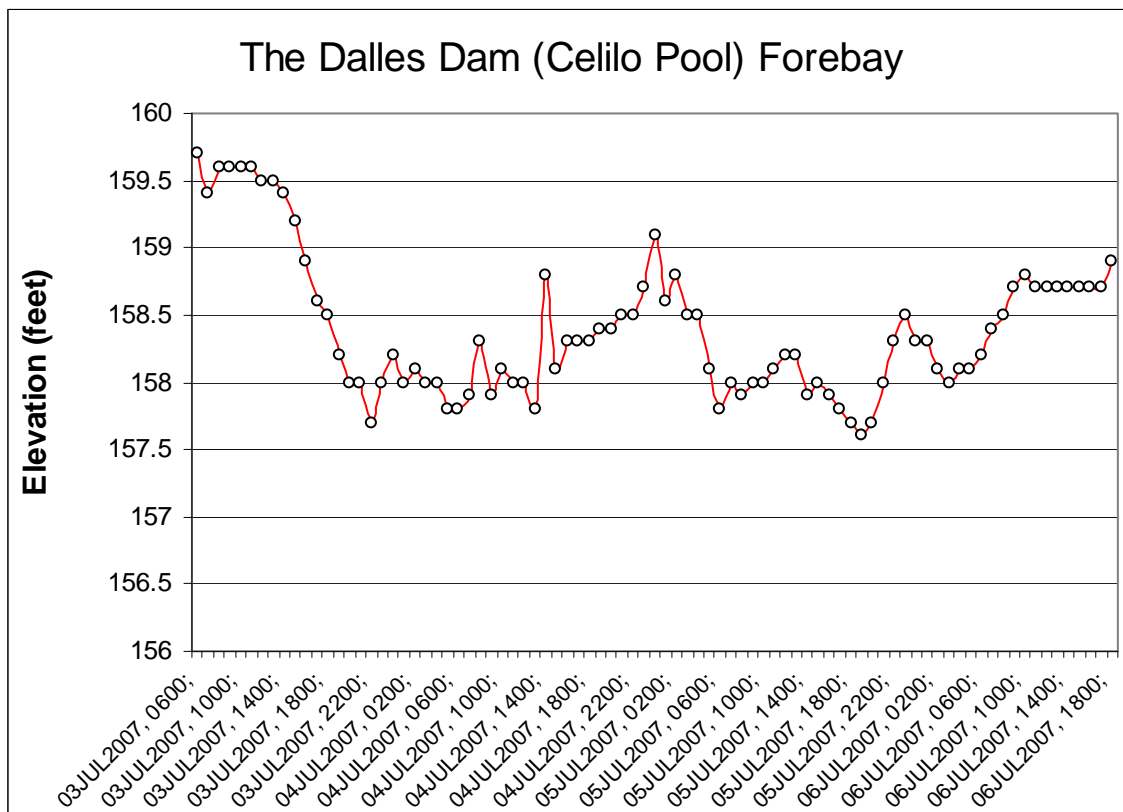


Figure 8. Observed TDA pool elevations during July 3-6, 2007 summer treaty fishing.

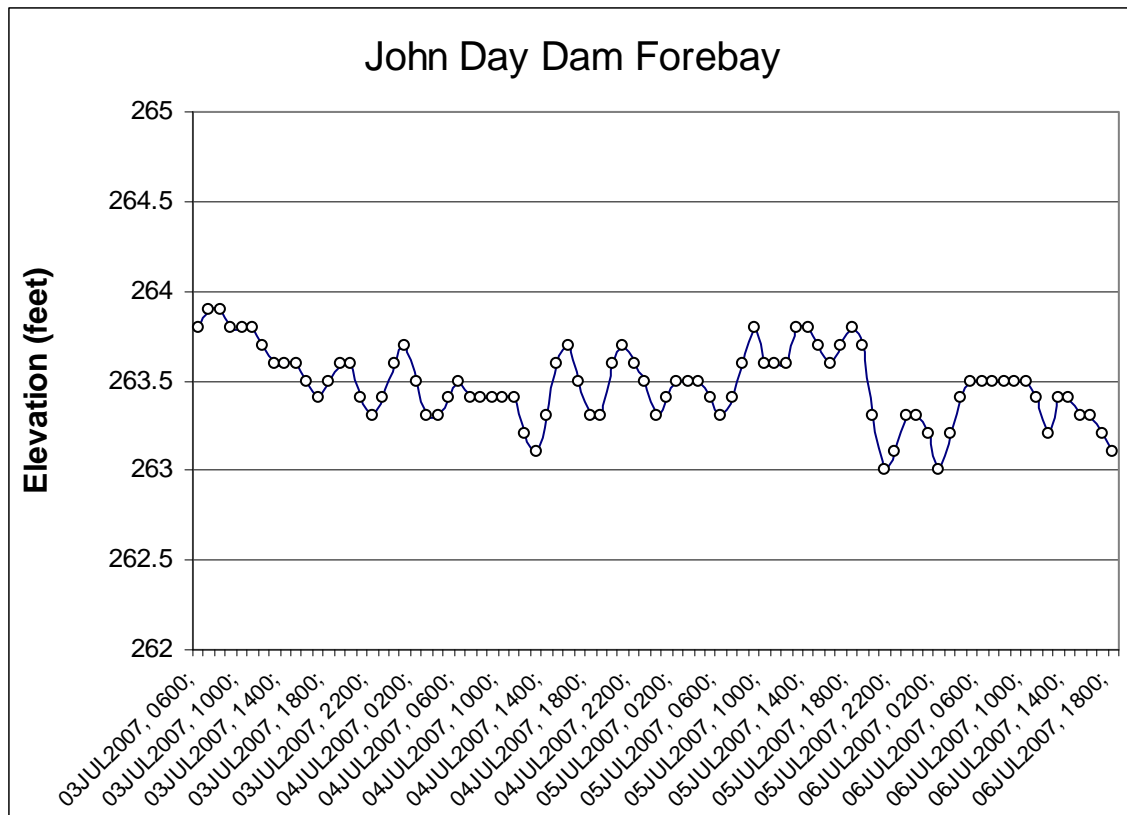


Figure 9. Observed JDA pool elevations during July 3-6, 2007 summer treaty fishing.